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Annual Report

UPON THE

Public Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of Linslade

FOR THE YEAR

1949

BY

M. C. ROTHCOPE

Medical Officer of Health



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Urban District Council of Linslade

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Linslade

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1949.

The population of the district is estimated at 3,433 (1931 census 2,433) and the area 1,693 acres.

The district is mainly residential in character. There are two fairly large factories, one engaged in the manufacture of felt hoods, and the other foundry equipment. These two factories employ 85 and 300 hands respectively.

STAFF

The staff consists of myself, M. C. Rothcope, Medical Officer of Health (part time), Mr. C. Laidman, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. P. Elkerton, Assistant to the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The total number of births registered in the Linslade Urban District for the year 1949 was 23 males and 28 females, giving a birth rate of 14.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Still births : three—two males and one female.

Death Rate

The number of deaths registered as occurring during the year 1949 was 27. To this figure must be added 14 deaths of residents which occurred outside the district, giving a total of 41, equivalent to 11.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. 30 of the 41 deaths occurred in persons over the age of 65.

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Death Rate	13.3	13.3	10.66	10.51	11.9
Birth Rate	6.3	10.0	6.0	20.0	14.8

A detailed list showing causes of death is given on next page.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LINSLADE URBAN DISTRICT
1949

Causes of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District								Total
	Male	Female	Under 1 Year	1 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All causes	22	19	...	...	1	2	8	30	41
Syphilitic Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteric Fever ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Rheumatic Fever ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary) Tuberculosis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer (Breast) ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Cancer (others) ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Inter-Cranial (Vascular Lesions)	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	9	8	...	...	...	...	...	15	17
Bronchitis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ... ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Digest Diseases ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Nephritis	1	3	...	...	1	...	1	2	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arterio-sclerosis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents & Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Pre- mature Birth ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Causes	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Old Age ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accidents ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	22	19	Nil	Nil	1	2	8	30	41

ZYMOTIC DISEASES

Three cases of Scarlet Fever; seven cases of Food Poisoning; ten cases of Pneumonia; one case of Erysipelas; twelve cases of Measles and eleven cases of Whooping Cough were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service (Directed by the Medical Research Council), Town Hall, Luton, provides all facilities for the chemical and bacteriological examination of clinical material, water, milk, ice cream and other foodstuffs.

Ambulance Facilities

An Infectious Disease Ambulance is sent by the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital when needed.

Nursing in the Home

Nursing in the patient's home has been carried out by the District Nurse in her usual efficient manner.

Midwifery

Confinements are conducted either in the patient's home by the District Nurse alone (see above), the District Nurse together with the patient's doctor; or in Hospital or Nursing Home.

In either case Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Examinations are made by the doctor.

Sanatoria

There is great delay in obtaining admission of Tuberculosis Cases to Sanatoria. In many cases the patient has to be nursed at home pending admission to Sanatorium.

Infectious Diseases

Cases of Infectious Diseases are removed to the Isolation Hospital at Aylesbury.

Orthopædic Treatment

Orthopædic cases are referred to hospital.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. C. ROTHCOPE,

Medical Officer of Health.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1949

LINSLADE URBAN COUNCIL
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1949

Nett Deaths from stated Causes as various ages under One Year

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria and Croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculous Meningitis
Abdominal Tuberculosis
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)
Convulsions
Laryngitis
Bronchitis
Pneumonia (all forms)
Diarrhoea
Enteritis
Gastritis
Syphilis
Rickets
Suffocation, overlying
Injury at Birth
Atelectasis
Congenital Malformations
Premature Birth
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus
Purpuric Diathesis
Violence
Accidental and Other Causes
Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Nett Births in the Year—Legitimate 50

Illegitimate 1

**CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED IN THE URBAN
DISTRICT OF LINSLADE DURING 1949**

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0
1
5
10
15
20
25	1	..	..	..
35
45	1	..	..	..	..
55
65 and upwards
Totals	1	1	..	..	..

**REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st December, 1949**

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

No slaughter houses are in use in the Urban District. Animals for human consumption are slaughtered at the central slaughter house, which is situated in the adjoining Urban District of Leighton Buzzard.

Regular inspection of retail shops is made and during the year 1949, 26 condemnation notes in respect of unsound food were issued.

It was found necessary to prosecute a local catering firm for contravention of paragraphs (c), (d), (h) and (i) of sub-section 1 of section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Fines totalling £20, with 3 guineas costs, were imposed.

MILK SUPPLY

The number of wholesale producers of milk on the register at the end of the year was three, and the number of retail purveyors five. Milk is also retailed in the district by retailers who are registered in the Leighton Buzzard Urban District.

ICE CREAM

The inspection of premises where ice cream is manufactured has been regularly undertaken. Fourteen samples were taken during the year. Three of these were found to be in grade 1, three in grade 2, six in grade 3 and two in grade 4.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

The town is provided with a main water supply. The Council's pumping station is situated at Soulbury Road and consists of an 18 inch. diameter borehole, 150 feet deep in the lower greensand. Pumping is by means of an electrically operated Sulzer deep well pump.

The new pump house which was commenced in February, 1948, had, due mainly to delay in delivery of materials, not been completed at the end of the year. Delivery of the new pumping plant had not been effected by the end of the year. Increased consumption, together with a complete breakdown on No. 1 borehole, was overcome by the hire of a submersible pump which was installed in No. 2 borehole, and this provided the required supply.

Many defects in services were located during the year and repairs were carried out as required.

SEWERAGE

The sewage disposal works continue, with careful handling, to produce a satisfactory effluent in spite of the fact that theoretically the plant is overloaded.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The collection and disposal of house refuse has proceeded satisfactorily during the year under review. The depositing of refuse on the Mentmore Road tip had to be discontinued during the year and arrangements were made with the Leighton Buzzard Urban District Council to use their tip.

HOUSING

Nineteen new houses on the Chelsea Green Estate were occupied during 1949, bringing the total number of Post War Houses completed to seventy three. Reasons for the re-housing of the nineteen families are set out below :—

No. living with in-laws under unsatisfactory conditions	..	5
No. re-housed from condemned houses	..	2
No. occupying unsatisfactory rooms or flats	..	9
No. of legal cases of overcrowding	..	1
No. of border line cases of overcrowding	..	1
No. taken from small insanitary houses	..	1
The number of applicants remaining on your Council's list was	..	160
as compared with 165 at the end of 1948.		

**SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SURVEYOR & SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1949**

Licensed Slaughter Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Bakehouses on Register	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of houses completed during the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
By private enterprise	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
By local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19

Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1932

(1) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	19
(2) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	13
(3) Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders	0
(4) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	0
(5) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	0
(6) Number of demolition or closing orders made	0
(7) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
(8) Number of houses demolished	0

Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
(2) Number of defects remedied	5

C. LAIDMAN,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

